

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A high performance, high capacitance gain, electric connector for data transfer applications, which comprises:

at least eight sequentially positioned elongate contact members connected in a plurality of signal pairs;

a first signal pair including a fourth contact member and a fifth contact member, and a second signal pair comprising a third contact member and a sixth contact member;

each of the third and fifth contact members mounting a plate-like extension oriented in a first direction and in respective planes generally parallel to one another, each pair of extensions being separated by a first dielectric having a relatively high dielectric value such that a first high gain capacitor is formed;

each of the fourth and sixth contact members mounting a plate-like extension oriented in a second direction and in respective planes generally parallel to one another, each pair of extensions being separated by a second dielectric having a relatively high dielectric value such that a second high gain capacitor is formed;

the first direction being generally convergent with the second direction; and

each contact member of each contact member pair including a plug engaging portion

and a board engaging portion, the plurality of contact members having a selected shape, being arranged relative to one another, and being housed collectively by a dielectric casing so as to minimize crosstalk during high frequency data transfer.

2. (Original) The electric connector set forth in claim 1 wherein at least one of the dielectrics comprises a polymeric material.

3. (Original) The electric connector set forth in claim 1 wherein the casing comprises a polymeric material having a relatively high dielectric value.

4. (Original) The electric connector set forth in claim 1 wherein at least one of the conductive members includes commercially pure copper.

5. (Original) The electric connector set forth in claim 1 wherein at least one of the capacitors is a flat plate capacitor.

6. (Original) The electric connector set forth in claim 1 wherein each conductive member having a plate-like extension is formed with the extension as a one piece unit.

7. (Original) The electric connector set forth in claim 1 wherein the total surface area of the extensions of the first capacitor is generally equivalent to that of the second capacitor extensions.

8. (Original) The electric connector set forth in claim 1 wherein the total surface area of the extensions of the first capacitor is generally unequal to that of the second capacitor extensions.

9. (Original) A high performance, high capacitance gain, electric connector for data transfer applications, which comprises:

at least eight sequentially positioned contacts connected in a plurality of signal pairs;

a first signal pair including a fourth contact and a fifth contact, a second signal pair comprising a third contact and a sixth contact, a third signal pair including a first contact and a second contact, and a fourth signal pair having a seventh contact and an eighth contact;

one contact of each pair being configured differently from the other contact of the pair, and the respective contacts of each pair being oriented relative to one another such that they substantially remain in generally parallel planes, but define non-parallel paths;

one contact of each of the first, third and fourth signal pairs crossing over the other contact of the pair so as to reverse the positions occupied by the respective contacts along their non-parallel paths;

each of the third and fifth contacts mounting a plate-like extension oriented in a first

direction and in respective planes generally parallel to one another, each pair of extensions being separated by a first dielectric such that a first capacitor is formed;

each of the fourth and sixth contacts mounting a plate-like extension oriented in a second direction and in respective planes generally parallel to one another, each pair of extensions being separated by a second dielectric such that a second capacitor is formed;

the first direction being generally convergent with the second direction; and

each contact of each contact pair including a plug engaging portion and a board engaging portion, the plurality of contacts having a selected shape, being arranged relative to one another, and being housed collectively by a dielectric casing so as to minimize crosstalk during high frequency data transfer.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)